

ST. JAMES THE LESS CHURCH
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania

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ST. JAMES THE LESS CHURCH, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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This congregation did not submit a Self-Study. This is to be regretted because the General Division of Research and Field Study is not able to comment thereon and analyze, nor make recommendations for St. James the Less.

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THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

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Population characteristics of the neighborhood around St. James the Less as reported by the census of 1960 indicated there were 39,749 people, and of this number 10,661, or 26.8%, were non-white persons. Although there were many young people in most of the census tracts, one census tract (38-C) reported about 25.3% above the age of 65 years. The following chart gives more detailed information on this parish area.

CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	POPULATION 1950	POPULATION 1960	% CHANGE	% 14 & UNDER	% 65 & OVER	% NON-WHITE
38-E	NA	5,432	-6-	36.9	7.8	7.8
38-F	NA	6,510	-	26.6	11.8	0.4
38-G	NA	11,361	-	27.9	7.5	80.3
38-A	NA	4,033	-	25.1	10.7	13.9
38-C	NA	1,985	-	11.9	25.3	0.7
38-D	NA	10,428	-	32.9	8.5	4.9
TOTAL		39,749				26.8

Of the 39,749 persons, as recorded in the 1960 census, there were 703 Episcopalians at the time this Study was made, making up 1.8% of the estimated population. Some 218 members of St. James the Less lived in this area making up 31.0 of all the Episcopalians and 77.5% of the parish membership.

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CENSUS TRACT OR ZONE	TOTAL POP.	TOTAL EPIS.	% OF POP. EPIS.	TOTAL PARISH MEMB.	% EPIS. MEMB.	% PARISH MEMB.
38-E	5,432	133	2.4	120	90.2	42.6
38-F	6,510	46	0.7	18	39.1	6.4
38-G	11,361	80	0.7	4	5.0	1.4
38-A	4,033	33	0.8	10	30.3	3.6
38-C	1,985	277	11.4	14	6.2	5.0
38-D	10,428	184	1.8	52	28.3	18.5
TOTAL	39,749	703	1.8	218	31.0	77.5

REPORTED MEMBERSHIP FROM THE MAPS

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The membership distribution map locates 281 members with the largest single concentration of members, 42.6%, living in the census tract in which the church is located. A secondary concentration of members is found in the census tract located west of Roosevelt Boulevard and south of Henry Avenue, which reported 52 members, or 18.5%. The following distribution is noted.

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ST JAMES THE LESS



REPORTED MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL DATA FROM JOURNALS

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Since 1940 the membership of St. James the Less has steadily declined so that between 1940 and 1963 the membership decreased from 566 baptized members to 170 and the communicant strength decreased from 456 to 151. During the three-year period 1961 through 1963 the baptized membership decreased from 307 to 170; communicant strength decreased 301 to 151. During this three-year period a total of nine persons were presented for baptism and 15 were presented for confirmation with corresponding ratios to the communicant strength of 1.3% and 2.2% respectively. These percentages are below the diocesan averages and when coupled with transfers in and transfers out, indicate the declining membership patterns.

During this same three-year period a total of \$88,044.00 was expended for all purposes and of this amount some \$6,243.00 was expended for work outside the parish, making up 7.1% of the total budget. The amount of money spent for work outside the parish should be carefully considered because it indicates a considerably smaller percentage than should be expected.

VITAL STATISTICS

PARISH ST. JAMES / LESS
COUNTY PHILADELPHIA

TOWN PHILADELPHIA
DIOCESE PENNSYLVANIA

	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962	1963
Baptized Members	566	509	527	552	299	307	300	170
Communicants	456	386	395	408	290	301	220	151
Church School	123	76	46	62	40	-	30	28
Baptisms	21	30	19	10	10	-	2	7
Percentage of Communicants	4.6	7.8	4.8	2.5	3.4		0.9	4.6
Confirmations	10	16	7	10	2	-	10	5
Percentage of Communicants	2.2	4.1	1.8	2.5	0.7		4.5	3.3
Parochial Expenditures 1	11,204	11,260	13,484	17,588	21,341	25,615	22,223	22,198
Special Par. Expenditures 2	5,474	3,527	4,022	5,191	4,014	2,628	4807	4330
Extra-parochial Expenditures 3	1,095	1,045	2,606	3,062	2,121	1,718	2289	2236
Total Reported Expenditures	17,773	15,832	20,112	25,841	27,476	29,961	29,319	28,764
Expenditures per Communicant	38.98	41.02	50.92	63.34	94.74	99.54	133.27	190.49
Extra-parochial Expenditures per Communicant	2.40	2.71	6.60	7.50	7.31	5.71	10.40	14.81

- 1 Includes clergy salary, current expense, pension premium, and Diocesan assessment.
- 2 Special parish purposes, including capital expenditures.
- 3 Includes Church's Program, special outside.